GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5790
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000
COMPENSATION TO FARMERS
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Chemical Laboratory has evolved prototypes for developing insect-resistant cotton, chickpea, pigeonpea and black pepper through gene transfer technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the results achieved at the field trials;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints of damage of cotton crop due to inferior quality pesticides from various parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the farmers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The National Chemical Laboratory has evolved protocols for in vitro regeneration of various explants of cotton such as apical meristem, shoot tip and cotyledonary node from in vitro grown seedllings of various indian cotton cultivars. Regeneration of cotton explants fulfils the major pre-requisite for transformation studies, which in turn after further refinement may be utilized for incorporation of insect resistance genes. In chickpea and pigeon pea, transformation protocols has been standardized. In black pepper tissue culture protocols for regeneration for various explants of cultivated and wild varieties has been standardized. However, in all the above cases work is still at the laboratory stage only. No field trials have been carried out.

(c) Major cotton growing States have informed that there is no damage of cotton crop due to inferior quality of pesticides during 1998-2000 crop season.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Question does not arise.